(b) if so, the aid and incentive extended for encouraging the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy by Government;

(c) whether Government have constituted any Board for Studies of Medicines;

(d) if so, the aims and objectives thereof; and

(e) to what extent this Board has achieved its objective?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Government has approved a separate National Policy on Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy to encourage and develop our systems including pharmaceuticals.

(b) The Policy proposes to seek fiscal incentives and tax concession for ISM industry within overall taxation policy to make them viable and competitive. Further strengthening of education, reorienting research, awareness building and integration have been projected in the new policy.

(c) to (e) The Government has constituted Central Council of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy Central Council to regulate education and practice in Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy and maintain central registers.

Performance of Pulse Polio Immunization Programme

1163. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the performance report of Pulse Polio Immunization Programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that Uttar Pradesh has 80-85 percent of World's polio cases as mentioned by UNICEF's Global Health Division; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that malnutrition, unhygienic conditions and illiteracy is responsible for this disease despite our highly publicized campaigns?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) There is improvement in performance of Pulse Polio Immunization Programme during January, 2003. A total of 1632,50,648 children were given oral polio drops during January, 2002 where as 1641,50,254 children were given polio drops during January, 2003.

(b) No Sir, Uttar Pradesh has 64.7 per cent of World's polio cases. As against 1905 cases reported in the World, 1238 cases have been reported from Uttar Pradesh during 2002.

(c) Unhygienic conditions and illiteracy are some of the factors responsible for spread of the disease in the community.

Pending applications for sanction of Medical Colleges in Karnataka

1164. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for sanction of Medical Colleges in Karnataka are pending and the names of the organizations whose applications are pending;

(b) the names of the Medical Colleges in Karnataka who have been directed by the Indian Medical Council to improve the deficiencies in the annual inspection of such colleges;

(c) the details of such observation, college-wise; and

(d) the action taken against the colleges who have violated MCI requirements?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Disinvestment of Bokajan Cement Factory

1165. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the proposal of Government of Assam to delink Bokajan Cement Factory from the proposed disinvestment by forming a separate company with revival package; and

(b) the details of profit and loss of the unit during the last three years indicating amount of accumulated loss/profit?